

A' cont.

according to Claim 1] human Nap1 protein having the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 or a protein having an amino acid sequence which includes substitution, deletion or addition of one or more amino acids of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 and having apoptosis-suppressing activities in the culture and harvesting the protein from the culture to be obtained.

9. (Amended) An oligonucleotide having a continuous 5 to 60-bp nucleotide sequence out of the DNA nucleotide sequences according to any one of Claims 2 [to 4] or 3 or an oligonucleotide having a sequence complementary to said oligonucleotide.

12. (Amended) A method for detecting an mRNA of a human Nap1 gene using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 9 [or 10].

13. (Amended) A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 9 [or 10].

14. (Amended) A method for repressing transcription of the human Nap1 gene or translation of mRNA thereof using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 9 [or 11].

15. (Amended) A therapeutic composition for apoptosis-participating diseases containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 9 [or 11].

A² 17. (Amended) An immunoassay of the human Nap1 protein having the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 or a protein having an amino acid sequence which includes substitution, deletion or addition of one or more amino acids of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 and having apoptosis-suppressing activities [according to Claim 1] using the antibody according to Claim 16.

Please add new Claims 20-38 as follows:

A³ --20. A recombinant vector containing the DNA according to Claim 4 and a vector.

21. A transformant which is obtained by introducing the vector according to Claim 20 into a host cell.

22. A process for producing protein, which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 5 in a medium to produce and accumulate the human Nap1 protein having the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 or a protein having an amino acid sequence which includes

A³ cont.

substitution, deletion or addition of one or more amino acids of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 and having apoptosis-suppressing activities in the culture and harvesting the protein from the culture to be obtained.

23. A process for producing protein, which comprises culturing the transformant according to Claim 21 in a medium to produce and accumulate the human Nap1 protein having the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 or a protein having an amino acid sequence which includes substitution, deletion or addition of one or more amino acids of the amino acid sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 2 and having apoptosis-suppressing activities in the culture and harvesting the protein from the culture to be obtained.

24. An oligonucleotide having a continuous 5 to 60-bp nucleotide sequence out of the DNA nucleotide sequences according to Claim 4 or an oligonucleotide having a sequence complementary to said oligonucleotide.

25. An oligonucleotide according to Claim 24, which has a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 17 or 18.

A³ cont.

26. An oligonucleotide according to Claim 24, which has a nucleotide sequence represented by SEQ ID NO. 26 or 28.

27. A method for detecting an mRNA of a human Nap1 gene using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 24.

28. A method for detecting an mRNA of a human Nap1 gene using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 10.

29. A method for detecting an mRNA of a human Nap1 gene using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 25.

30. A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 24.

31. A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 10.

32. A diagnostic reagent for Alzheimer's disease containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 25.

33. A method for repressing transcription of the human Nap1 gene or translation of mRNA thereof using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 24.

004790-061400

A³ cont.

34. A method for repressing transcription of the human Nap1 gene or translation of mRNA thereof using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 11.

35. A method for repressing transcription of the human Nap1 gene or translation of mRNA thereof using the oligonucleotide according to Claim 26.

36. A therapeutic composition for apoptosis-participating diseases containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 24.

37. A therapeutic composition for apoptosis-participating diseases containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 11.

38. A therapeutic composition for apoptosis-participating diseases containing the oligonucleotide according to Claim 26.--

REMARKS

Claims 5, 7, 9, 12-15 and 17 have been amended and claims 20-38 have been added to correct their dependency and conformity with accepted U.S. practice.

No new matter has been added.

Entry hereof is earnestly solicited.

004790" B44T8560